



NEWS RELEASE

CALIFORNIA SECRETARY OF STATE **KEVIN SHELLEY**

KS04:009

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Wednesday, January 28, 2004

Contact: Terri Carbaugh
Doug Stone
916-653-6575

Secretary of State Kevin Shelley and More Than 650 Organizations Distribute User-Friendly Easy Voter Guides for the March Presidential Primary Election

SACRAMENTO, CA—An unprecedented network of more than 650 organizations engaged in voter education are distributing free copies of the popular *Easy Voter Guide* for the March 2, 2004 Primary Election. Secretary of State Kevin Shelley is sponsoring the *Easy Voter Guide* available in English, Spanish, Chinese, Vietnamese and Korean, as part of a comprehensive outreach program to encourage voter participation.

The 16-page printed booklet provides an overview of the primary, with:

- Statements and pictures from the candidates for President and U.S. Senate;
- Statements from each of California's seven political parties;
- Succinct descriptions of the statewide ballot measures with pro and con arguments; and
- Easy-to-read descriptions of the primary election and the voting process.

"I am pleased to partner with so many organizations who share a common goal of increasing voter participation by making easy-to-use election information as accessible as possible," said Secretary of State Kevin Shelley.

The *Easy Voter Guide* is also available on audiotape in English and Spanish, and in large print at www.easyvoter.org. All five languages can be downloaded at www.easyvoter.org and www.myvotecounts.org.

Voters can visit www.myvotecounts.org or www.easyvoter.org to find out who is distributing *Easy Voter Guides* in their area. Newspapers wishing to reprint the Easy Voter Guide can receive a CD of the guide formatted to their publication specifications in any of the five languages. CD's may be ordered via an application available on the web page.

In addition to the support of the California Secretary of State's Office, other partners include the California State Library, the California League of Women Voters Education Fund, and Literacyworks. The Easy Voter Guide Project is managed by Common Knowledge.